



God guard our flag, and keep each star
Each stripe as bright as now they were,
Still make it lead our ranks in war,
Still do above each patriot's grave,
Death to the traitor that would dare
Tarnish it through the dust of shame.
All honest hearts let it will share
And follow it to death or fame.

"If any one State, or any portion of the
people of any State, choose to place themselves
in array against the Government of the
Union, I am for trying the strength of this
Government, I am for ascertaining whether
we have a Government or not—practically,
efficient, capable of maintaining its authority
and upholding the powers and interests
which belong to a Government. Nor
am I to be alarmed or dissuaded from any
such course by intimations of the spilling of
blood. If blood is to be spilled, by whose
fault is it to be spilled? Upon the supposition,
I maintain, it will be the fault of those who
choose to raise the standard of disunion, and
endeavor to prostrate the Government. And
when that is done, so long as it pleases
God to give me a voice to express my sentiments,
or an arm, weak and enfeebled as it
may be by age, that voice and that arm will
be on the side of my country, for the support
of the general authority, and for the maintenance
of the Powers of the Union." [Speech
of Henry Clay, August 1st, 1850.]

But a very few people understand the
rationale of the financial arrangement
which the Government has with the As-
sociated Banks of Philadelphia, New York
and Boston. A tolerably clear idea may
be had by carefully reading the article
which we reproduce from the New York
Journal of Commerce to-day.

We published yesterday the proceedings
of the convention held at Hatteras Inlet,
at which Mr. N. Taylor was made Govern-
or of North Carolina, and a provisional
government, similar to that instituted here
at Wheeling, adopted.

We do not attach any special importance
to this Convention. It, however, is
an interesting wedge for the overturning of
the rebellion in that State. It is stated
that forty-five counties were represented
by delegates, and proxies. This idea of
proxies in government is novel. It may be
difficult for persons loyal at heart to cross
the rebel lines and take part in such a
convention. The moral support of men
in distant counties might be expressed
appropriately enough by letter, and in
this way they might co-operate heartily.
Beyond this, of course, the proxy
system can have no meaning or ap-
plication. If the wrong men get hold of
these movements for reconstruction in the
Southern States, they will retard rather
than advance the good work. It is to be
hoped that the right men will in every case
take the lead. We trust that this move-
ment in the old North State may grow into
her complete restoration to the Union.—
We believe that it will speedily. Things
point that way now. The Raleigh papers
told us that the news of the capture of the
Hatteras forts was received with shouts in
the North Carolina legislature. Within a
few days they have asserted that the mem-
bers of that body were not to be trusted,
as they were "in the same boat with the
Unionists." These are facts which indicate
what we might expect if there was a free
expression of opinion in North Carolina.

THE CONVENTION to form a Constitution for
a new State out of the territory of the
Commonwealth of Virginia, meets to-day
in this city. It is one of the most important
bodies ever convened in any State of this
Union. Its action will possess a national
interest. Its assemblage marks an era
in the great rebellion. We need not
rehearse the circumstances that have called
it together. They are familiar to every
one. It meets in response to the all but
unanimous call of the loyal people of more
than thirty-nine counties of Western Vir-
ginia. We do not presume that there will
be a dissenting voice in the body. They
cannot help being a unit for division. By
the vote given they are all so instructed.
The prospective action of this body
seems to have suggested similar action in
another distant and like situated part
of the State. We mean the peninsula coun-
ties of Accomac and Northampton, now
divided by only an imaginary line from
Maryland. Yesterday's dispatches infor-

All traces of disloyalty seem to have
disappeared in both counties. County
meetings will be held to-morrow to renew
their allegiance to the National Govern-
ment.

These people will first adopt the State
Government of Western Virginia as a tem-
porary measure, and then look to legisla-
tion by that State and Maryland for an-
nektion to the latter.

pers, as one of the fruits of Virginia's
participation in the rebellion.

For our part, we can say that we hope to
escape the affliction of being united with
the Valley— notwithstanding the many loy-
al people that are there, and the two or
three loyal counties that have voted to go
with us. The greater portion of the Val-
ley are as antagonistic to the West as ever
was the tide water region. We want a
homogeneous State. Such we never could
have, united to the Valley. Negroes are
their staple. They are not ours. We
want to get clear of negroes. The Valley
does not. We want in a few years to be
come a free State. The Valley does not.

If, however, the wish shall become any
ways general among the people of the
Valley, when this rebellion shall have been
put down, to join with us, they can do so,
by adopting the free State policy which the
West will have originated. In this way
only, and with this understanding only,
would their accession be of any benefit.—
We do not wish to be connected any longer
with the miserable one-headed negro
policy that has cursed us all the days of
our lives thus far. That policy is always
arrogant, selfish and absorbing. It hangs
upon the steps of progress, and hobbles
both its feet. We have had enough of it.
We have had a sore experience. Let us
not repeat the folly. Let us have
a natural State. Let us look to
our true interests. These interests lie
Eastward—not Southward. It is the capital
and skill and enterprise and hardy
manhood of the Eastern States, that are to
develop Western Virginia; that are to
build cities and towns and villages and
factories and workshops, school houses
and churches, in places now almost un-
known within our limits. The same ma-
terial that has made the city of Wheeling,
has got to make Western Virginia. We all
know what that material is. We know
that without foreign enterprise, labor and
capital, we would have been nothing. By
parity of reasoning, we can all likewise
know that Western Virginia, without these
same helps, will be nothing in a hundred
years to come. What we want, then, is
a policy that will meet the case. And that
policy is obviously and manifestly a free
State policy. Let feudalism and every
species of middle ageism, and all sorts of
anti-progress, be kept out of our Constitu-
tion from the start. Do not let us build
up hindrances and stumbling blocks for
those who shall come after us. Our bitter
experience ought to teach us compassion
for our successors. Will we have that
compassion? Will we be equal to the
emergency? We shall see within the next
few weeks.

The business of starving the rebels into
submission, would be a slow and uncer-
tain thing. The cure of the malady which
rules them cannot be accomplished with-
out blood letting and cauterizing. But a
spare diet goes a great way towards put-
ting a patient in a way to be cured; and
an empty stomach sometimes gives re-
markable clearness to the brain. The honest
self examinations to which fasting em-
phatically conduces, is what the mass of the
Southern people need. The meek retri-
ciding of steps to which, since the days of
the prodigal son, hard fare and little of it,
strongly impels, will soon remove the
burdens they have brought upon them-
selves. The blockade pressure, coupled
with strong military treatment, like that
at Port Royal, is what is needed.

No doubt that pressure now is general
and severe. The blockade, though not
perfect, is nearly so complete as to crush
trade and commerce, and to cause serious
discomfort. The prices of the necessities
of life, at New Orleans, equally with the
interior, and in the aristocratic districts of
South Carolina, equally with the back-
woods of Arkansas, are indicative of suffer-
ing and of a terrible winter. We are not left
to surmise this from the prices current, or
even newspaper articles. Want has be-
come so general and so threatening that
official action has already been taken to
ameliorate the condition of the people. No
two States have been more prosperous and
self-sustaining than Tennessee and Georgia.
Yet the latter, if we may believe its
own journals, is suffering from famine so
generally that unless legislative relief can
be provided a general raid of mobs is tead-
ed upon the receptacles of grain and pro-
visions, and in the former, also, legisla-
tion is demanded to keep down the price of
food, "and, if it shall be necessary, to
place the same in the hands of the military
authorities."

The Atlanta (Ga.) Confederacy of Nov.
9th, makes the action of the Tennessee
Legislature the text for trying a similar
movement in Georgia. On the instance of
a public meeting in Nashville, the follow-
ing resolution was submitted to the Solons
of Tennessee, and their favorable action
requested:

Resolved, That the Legislature of the
State of Tennessee be requested to pass
some law that will prevent the ruinous
prices now sought to be placed upon the
staples of life, even if it shall be necessary
to place the same in the hands of the military
authorities.

In Georgia, no less is the pressure felt.
The Confederacy attributes to speculators
who run up prices for their own profit; and
remarks:

Before this war commenced, bacon could
be bought for 10 and 12 cts. per pound.
It is now selling at 30 cts. Nothing has
transpired to increase the cost of making
it, and its transportation has not been
interfered with. Our Government should have it to feed
the soldiers; and their poor families at
home should have it at a more reasonable
rate; and those engaged in the sale of it
should have that much patriotism in them.
If they have it not, the law should furnish
them with it.

County taxes could be had for 50 cents per
acre before the war, now it is from \$5 to
\$10. The labor of making it, and the
material out of which it is made, cost no
more now than then; and the soldier should
have it to clothe him while he fights for
him; and those engaged in the sale of it
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of this case; but the necessity is great, and
we are in favor of the Legislature making
the attempt.

Coffee is selling at from 50 to 60 cents
per pound; but we say let it sell for what
ever people are willing to give for it. It is
not an article of prime necessity, and let
those who judge it to get the cheap, and
they can get it. Fine dress goods are luxu-
ries, necessities; let those who wear them
make their dealers see fit to ask. We would
make no restrictions on any such articles
as these. But during the war when our
national existence, our greatest interests
and our personal honor are at stake, we
would put a check upon the disposition to
speculate upon such articles as the Govern-
ment and the soldier must have, or per-
ish.

And now, in conclusion, we deprecate
the spirit manifested by some in relation to
this matter. Our neighbor, the Intelligencer,
a few days ago, indulged in what we
consider intemperate strictures, which, if
heeded, would excite the people to deeds worse
than those complained of. Such subjects
should not be dealt rashly with, and the
rights and equity of dealing should not be
run over roughed by a mob or an outraged
passion, so long as anything else will avail.

We are in favor of abiding by law, and
recognizing every man's legal rights as long
as they exist. These times, however, have
imposed upon us obligations towards each
other, and towards the Confederate Govern-
ment, which our present laws do not
exact. We are in favor of having them
thoroughly take this matter into mind, and deal
with it to respect the rights of dealers,
and justice is secured to those who are
needy.

While these prices are so high, money is
also very scarce throughout the South,
and the sources from which it has been
accustomed to flow in upon them are closed.
The pressure must therefore in-
crease until the cause of it is removed.—
While the war lasts the famine will pre-
vail. To bring home to the poor, who are
sufferers, the truth that the famine is the
result of the conspiracy against the Union,
and that plenty will at once be restored to
them on the declaration of loyalty, should be
the burden of private and official com-
munications. As the army advances, gen-
erals may better show to the Southern peo-
ple how they prefer rebellion and famine
to loyalty and abundance, and that the lat-
ter are freely offered and fraternally urged
upon them.

We do not know when we have read
anything more refreshing than the speech
of Geo. Francis Train, an American in
England, delivered a short time ago at a
conspicuous public gathering in London.
Read it, everybody. We like the bold, pa-
triotic and slang-whang style in which he
shows up England. We don't wonder the
president of the meeting and others winced
several times.

The author of the brilliant speech writes
a letter to Saturday's New York Herald,
received yesterday. He has his eyes wide
open in England, and he gives a minute
account, so that it may come to the atten-
tion of the Government, of the fitting out,
and hourly expected sailing of the Gladi-
ator. He describes her thus:

"80 horse power; 600 tons; steam; nine
and a half knots; old Lisbon screw steam
packet; sold by Baker, Adams & Co., loaded
by the 'Private Joint Stock Company of
England and Southern Seamen,' with
600 cases of rifles, cannon, shot, blankets,
provisions, and a large quantity of gun-
powder, which she took in last night at
Kith. She clears to-day for Tenerife
and Nassau."

The opening of the letter is a curiosity.
It has the tone and ring of his speech.
It begins thus:

No. 18 ST. JAMES STREET, LONDON,
Nov. 9, 1861.

When steamships owned by Englishmen,
loaded by Englishmen, despatched by Eng-
lishmen, manned by Englishmen, continue
to leave English ports, under English col-
ors, under the very eyes of the American
Legation and the English Foreign office,
full of goods contraband of war, in aid of
those in open rebellion against the Federal
Government, when Lord Palmerston re-
plies to Mr. Adams, "Yes, we know it, we
catch them if you can," when it becomes
generally known that the English army is
in secession, the English navy is secession,
the English church is secession, the Eng-
lish Parliament is secession, the English
aristocracy is secession, the English mer-
cantile marine and the English bankers are
secession, as day after day we see by read-
ing the secession articles in the English
secession daily, weekly and monthly press
—I say, when you see the entire dress cir-
cumstances, it is time to declare, from personal
observation, that the English pit is sound,
and goes for the Union to the last.

The boxes breathe hostility but the gal-
laries are true to the Union cause.

If our government had a few men like
Train in England, we think it would be
greatly to their advantage. And his clear,
heartly good sense, is more than a match
for half a dozen flimsy sophists like
Yancy. We hope that when he gets re-
inforced by Edward Everett, Thurlow
Weed, Bishop Hughes and others, he will
be able to do still more.

FROM GUYANDOTTE.

GUYANDOTTE, Va., Nov. 19.

Messrs. Editors: I notice in a late issue
of your paper what purports to be a cor-
rect statement of the fight in our town, by
Col. Wheeler, against the rebel forces head-
ed by Col. Clarkson, signed "Rev. J. G.
Wheeler;" and the said Wheeler writes as
though he was here all the time, and partici-
pated in the fight, when the contrary is
the fact. It can be proven on either au-
thority, that at the first alarm, or rather
when the long roll commenced beating, Mr.
Wheeler ran from the house where he was
hiding, and obtained no day see by read-
ing, while on the other hand, his fellow board-
er, Lieut. Col. G. W. Bailey, got his gun,
ran down town and fought like a man,
until he was overpowered.

I must say that while Col. Bailey was
exhibiting, and showing by his acts that he
was for his country, the acting Adjutant
of the 9th Virginia regiment showed the
white feather.

In answer to writing this communication
is to show a few of the absurdities of the
said Adjutant in his statement. In the
first place he ran. Then why should he
know so much more than any one else? In
the second place, he says that Mr. J. B.
Wood had both hips out of place, and still
he was compelled to leave on foot. Mr.
Wood was wounded in the hand, and had
his arm broken, but he was on his feet, and
hips out of place? He says, also, that the
hypocritical secession citizens, who had
been instrumental in getting up the attack,
came on the bank and waved their white
flags. Those flags were waved, after all
the rebels had left, by P. B. Smith and J.
B. Moore, two as good Union men as the

Adjutant of the 9th regiment is or ever
will be, and they were raised for the ex-
press purpose to get the citizens of Proctor-
ville to cease firing until they could re-
move the dead bodies from the bridge.

Again, he says E. A. Smith was in the
street, firing on our troops. As good
citizens, it is to be regretted to show that
E. A. Smith was in the cellar of the hotel, in
company with A. P. Chapman, where they
had gone for safety, as Mr. Wheeler can
bring to show the contrary. He says that
no Union man's house was set on fire.—
The very first house that the torch was ap-
plied to was a Union man's house, and a ma-
jority of the property destroyed belonged to
Unionists.

Mr. Wheeler says the first intimation he
had of the attack, all was confusion. As I
said in the beginning of this letter, it can
be proven by competent witnesses, that
while Col. Bailey buckled on his cartridge
box and went into the fight, the Adjutant
started in the opposite direction for the
hills, and that, too, while the long roll was
beating to arms, and before there was a
gun fired. A Union Man.

Gov. Peirpoint's Thanksgiving Proclamation.

(From the Parkersburg Gazette.)

In a pleasant and felicitously worded
proclamation, Gov. Peirpoint has called
upon all loyal and true Virginians to ob-
serve Thursday, November 28th, as a day
of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the
blessings He has vouchsafed to us during
the past year. We have always had a sort
of sneaking affection for our good Govern-
or, but we confess to the soft impeachment
that this takes us better than most of
the proclamations that have issued from
his pen, inasmuch as they are generally
plain business documents, and not the
sort of thing that we are so much in the
habit of reading with thankfulness to God,
the giver of all good, for the many precious
gifts he has bestowed upon us during the
past year.

It is true war has been among us, we
have seen the dead and dying, the wound-
ed and the sick all around us. It is true
the alarm is still abroad, and the people
are being free from a sense of calamity; but
oh how many things has the loving and
Christian spirit to be thankful for. In the
midst of man's depravity, when the public
offices—the highest in the land—were de-
graded by thieves and robbers, when treas-
ure was in the hearts of thousands, who
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